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APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF PARAGUAY

Improvement of Agricultural and Livestock Statistics
(PAR/79/003)

Report of the Administrator*

Date of present approval:	May 1979
Starting date of project activities:	July 1979 (Planned)
Planned completion date:	December 1981
To be executed by:	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Government implementing agency:	Department of Census and Agricultural Statistics (Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock) (MAG)
Estimated cost of assistance planned under present approval:	$ 504,400 (UNDP financed: $ 434,400) (Government cost sharing: $ 70,000)
Source of UNDP financing:	Indicative Planning Figure (IPF)

I. Background

1. Paraguay's last Agricultural Livestock Census was held in 1956. Since then the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock has carried out two partial surveys, in 1968 and 1969, based on the 1956 census data. Taking into consideration Paraguay's large increase in its agricultural output, which involves most important changes in its agricultural and livestock structure, the Government has felt that it requires an updating of the base information and the establishment of a system capable of generating, on a continuous basis, the information required to improve the Government's decision-making capacity in implementing the Agricultural and Livestock Sectoral Plans. Furthermore, the information to be obtained should be part of the world-wide 1980 Agricultural Census which FAO has proposed that its member Governments should conduct.

* In accordance with General Assembly resolution 2688 (XXV) and subsequent authorizations of the UNDP Governing Council, reports are issued seriatim on the approval of UNDP assistance of $ 250,000 or more (including, if any, assistance financed by Government or by third-party cost sharing).

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II. Objectives and activities

2. The project has been designed to assist in carrying out the 1980 National Agricultural and Livestock Census; in establishing Agricultural and Livestock Data Bank; and in formulating and implementing a national programme for the collection of continuous agricultural and livestock statistics. To do this, the project will strengthen the national agricultural statistics programme; establish a system of periodic surveys to assist planting and harvesting forecasts; establish a mechanism for the transfer of information obtained to the end users; establish at the Ministerial level the basic infrastructure to process and analyse information; and train national staff on these matters.

III. Inputs

3. Under the assistance now approved, UNDP will provide, through the Executing Agency, the services of an expert in agricultural statistics and will also finance fellowships and equipment.

4. To carry out the activities for which assistance is now approved, the Government of Paraguay will provide qualified professional and supporting staff, office space, equipment for transport and data processing, and funds to cover other miscellaneous expenditures.

IV. Financial data

5. The expenditure components of the planned assistance are as follows:

Personnel	328 700
Training	113 500
Equipment	48 200
Miscellaneous	14 000
Total	504 400
Financed by:	
UNDP	434 400
Government	70 000

6. In addition to the total amount financed by the Government as shown above ($70,000) the Government will also pay $ 9,800 towards related Executing Agency support costs. The estimated total value, expressed in US dollars, of the inputs provided directly by the Government to the project is $ 2,316,700 in kind.